

APPENDIX J

Regional Habitat Conservation Planning Resources

(hyperlinked)

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California Department of Fish and Game ([CDFG](#))

California Wetlands Conservation Policy

In 1993, California established a [wetlands conservation policy](#) framework and strategy. This policy guides all state agencies to ensure no overall net loss and to achieve a long-term net gain in the quantity, quality, and permanence of wetlands acreage and values in California in a manner that fosters creativity, stewardship and respect for private property.

California Wildlife Conservation Board ([WCB](#))

California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program

The [California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program](#) (CRHCP) was created within the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) by legislation in 1991. The program has a basic mission to develop coordinated conservation efforts aimed at protecting and restoring the state's riparian ecosystems. The goals of the CRHCP, as noted in its enabling legislation, are to protect, preserve, restore and enhance riparian habitat throughout California. To achieve these goals the program has adopted the following seven objectives:

- Assess the current amount and status of riparian habitat throughout the state.
- Identify those areas which are critical to the maintenance of California's riparian ecosystems.
- Identify those areas which are in imminent danger of destruction or significant degradation.
- Prioritize protection needs based on the significance of the site and potential loss or degradation of habitat.
- Develop and fund project-specific strategies to protect, enhance, or restore significant riparian habitat.
- Develop, administer, and fund a grants program for riparian habitat conservation.
- Provide a focal point for statewide riparian habitat conservation efforts.

Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Program (General)

The Wildlife Conservation Board's [Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Program \(General\)](#) funds projects outside the agency's two main restoration programs (the California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program and the Inland Wetland Conservation Program). Included in the Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Program are restorations of fisheries, wetlands outside the Central Valley (inland wetlands), native grasslands, and forests. Eligible enhancement and restoration projects must provide for the long-term maintenance of the restored and/or enhanced habitat. Eligible applicants for restoration projects include nonprofit conservation organizations and federal, state or local governmental agencies. Habitat enhancement and restoration projects, like the acquisition and public access projects, are carried out pursuant to recommendations from CDFG. Restoration and public access projects may be located on department-owned or other lands.

California Department of Food and Agriculture ([CDEA](#))[Plumas / Sierra Counties Weed Management Area](#)[Lassen County Special Weed Action Team \(SWAT\)](#)

Local stakeholder groups work on weed projects in Weed Management Areas (WMA). Typically, they are organized by a county through its Agricultural Commissioners' offices. All interested land management entities, public and private, may participate. Official WMA partners sign a Memorandum of Understanding indicating their commitment to working on invasive plant problems to the extent resources allow. Each WMA develops a strategic plan that identifies its top priorities for local management. Together, these partners plan and implement projects on-the-ground, and collaborate on mapping and public education. In the year 2000, there were fewer than 20 groups statewide—today there are 48 covering all counties. The mission of the Lassen County SWAT is to coordinate an integrated pest management partnership between public and private land managers and citizens for the control of noxious weeds in Lassen County.

Partners in Flight ([PIF](#))**California Chapter of Partners in Flight ([CalPIF](#))**

Partners in Flight is an international cooperative endeavor initiated in 1990 in response to alarming population declines noted in species of neotropical migratory birds. The program encourages conservation through partnerships before species and their habitats become threatened or endangered, and provides a constructive framework for guiding non-game landbird conservation activities throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America.

California Partners in Flight was formed in 1992 with the full participation of the state's land and wildlife managers, scientists and researchers, and private organizations interested in the conservation of non-game landbirds. Noting that the major cause of population declines in California appeared to be habitat loss, CalPIF began identifying critical habitats important to birds and worked to protect and enhance remaining fragments of those habitats. CalPIF has completed habitat and bioregion-based Bird Conservation Plans (BCP) for the following seven general habitat types: Riparian, Oak Woodlands, Coastal Scrub and Chaparral, Grasslands, Coniferous Forests, Sagebrush, and the Sierra Nevada Bioregion.

Intermountain West Joint Venture

The [Intermountain West Joint Venture](#) (IWJV) is one of 17 Joint Venture partnerships in the United States, established under the [North American Waterfowl Management Plan](#) (NAWMP), and funded under the annual Interior Appropriations act. It includes portions of eleven states, including eastern California. The mission of the Intermountain West Joint Venture is to work collaboratively through diverse partnerships to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands and associated habitats for waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and riparian songbirds, in accordance with conservation actions identified in the Joint Venture's implementation plan. In addition to PIF and the NAWMP, the key conservation initiatives for the IWJV are the [U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan \(USSCP\)](#), [North American Waterbird Conservation Plan](#) (NAWCP), and National Sage-Grouse Conservation Planning Framework. IMJV's [Coordinated Implementation Plan for Bird Conservation in California](#) addressed all bird species within the three California bird conservation regions that fall within its jurisdiction.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ([USFWS](#))

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act

In 2000, the U.S. Congress passed the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act ([NMBCA](#)) (16 UCS 6101-6109). The purposes of the Act are to:

1. Perpetuate healthy populations of neotropical migratory birds.
2. Assist in the conservation of neotropical migrants by supporting conservation initiatives in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean.
3. Provide financial resources and foster international cooperation for these initiatives.

The USFWS manages the NMBCA's [grant program](#) to implement the terms of this legislation.

University of California Cooperative Extension, Sierra and Lassen County

The 64 University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) offices are local problem-solving centers. UCCE is a full partnership of federal, state, county, and private resources linked in applied research and educational outreach. Each UCCE tailors its programs to meet local needs including meetings, conferences, workshops, demonstrations, field days, video programs, newsletters and manuals. The [Plumas Sierra Counties UCCE](#) provides many resources and publications online.